GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3254
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2002
CLOSURE OF WESTERN COAL MINES
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Coal mines are closed and some other are going to be closed very soon;

(b) if so, the details about closed and other mines;

(c) whether the WCL has formulated any plan to make uneconomical close mines viable in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether workforce of closed mines are employed adequately; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL & MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): In Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), some coal mines have been closed due to exhaustion of coal reserves and on techno-economic and safety consideration. The state-wise number of coal mines closed down during last three years alongwith the reasons for closure is furnished below:-

Year	Name of Mines	Type	State	Reason for Closure
1999-2000	Shivpuri	Underground	Madhya Pradesh	Exhaustion of workable reserves
	Kukurmunda	Opencast	Madhya Pradesh	-do-
	N.Majri No.II	Underground	Maharashtra	-do-
	Kamptee	Underground	Maharashtra	-do-
2000-2001	Walni	Underground	Maharashtra	-do-
2001-2002	Wirur/Chinchholi	Underground	Maharashtra	Techno-economic
	Nakoda	Underground	Maharashtra	Safety
	E.D.Chikli	Underground	Madhya Pradesh	Exhaustion of workable reserves
	Chandametta	Underground	Madhya Pradesh	-do-
	Rawanwara	Opencast	Madhya Pradesh	-do-

At present, 81 mines are in operation in WCL - 44 being underground, 31 opencast and 6 mixed mines.

(c) &)d): It is not possible to re-open the closed mines due to reasons indicated in the reply of part (b). Question of viability of these closed mine, therefore, does not arise.

(e) & (f): All manpower of the closed mines have been re-allocated to other units in the same or adjoining areas within the company.